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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT OPERATIONS

In re Application of:

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Masaaki Ohashi

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Group Art Unit: 1771 ✓

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Serial No.: 09/940,773

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Examiner: Zirker, Daniel R.

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Filed: August 28, 2001

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For: **PEELING MEMBER**

New York, NY 10036
September 23, 2003

MS Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action that was mailed May 23, 2003. Kindly amend the subject application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (canceled)
2. (canceled)
3. (canceled)
4. (canceled)
5. (canceled)
6. (canceled)
7. (canceled)
8. (currently amended) A peeling member arranged in contact with or adjacent to a roller attached to an electrophotographic apparatus, comprising: a metal support member, and a peeling sheet ~~adhered to said metal support member with YAG laser spot welding,~~ wherein said peeling sheet comprises a metal plate and a polytetrafluoroethylene film adhered with a silicone based adhesive to a portion of the metal plate where the metal plate contacts or is adjacent to the roller, said metal plate being adhered to the metal support member with YAG laser spot welding.
9. (canceled)
10. (original) The peeling member as claimed in claim 8, wherein the peeling sheet comprises a metal plate.
11. (previously amended) The peeling member as claimed in claim 8, wherein the peeling sheet comprises a metal plate, having a fluororesin film adhered with a silicone based adhesive to a portion of said metal plate where the metal plate at least

contacts or is adjacent to said roller.

12. (previously amended) The peeling member as claimed in claim 11, wherein the fluororesin film is at least one resin film selected from the group consisting of polytetrafluoroethylene polymer, tetrafluoroethylene-perfluoroalkylvinylether copolymer, tetrafluoroethylene-hexafluoropropylene copolymer, and tetrafluoroethylene-ethylene copolymer.

13. (currently amended) The peeling member as claimed in claim [[12]] 8, wherein the polytetrafluoroethylene ~~fluororesin~~ film has a thickness of 10 μ m to 200 μ m.

14. (currently amended) The peeling member as claimed in claim [[11]] 8, wherein a surface of the polytetrafluoroethylene ~~fluororesin~~ film for adhering to the metal plate is surface-treated.

15. (currently amended) The peeling member as claimed in claim 14, wherein the surface of the polytetrafluoroethylene ~~fluororesin~~ film is etched by immersing the ~~fluororesin~~ film in an ammonia solution of metal sodium.

16. (currently amended) The peeling member as claimed in claim [[11]] 8, wherein the silicone based adhesive comprises dimethylpolysiloxane crude rubber.

17. (canceled)

18. (canceled)

19. (canceled)

20. (canceled)

21. (new) The peeling member as claimed in claim 8, wherein the polytetrafluoroethylene film is sheet shaped film to be adhered to the metal plate.